



# **San Diego City Attorney CASEY GWINN**

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## **NEWS RELEASE**

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: October 11, 2004**

**Contact: Maria Velasquez, Press Secretary: (619) 235-5725 (pager & voicemail) [mvelasquez@saniego.gov](mailto:mvelasquez@saniego.gov)**

### **SOCIAL HOST ORDINANCE PUT ON HOLD**

**Statement by City Attorney Casey Gwinn**

We are disappointed with the Superior Court Appellate Division's ruling regarding the Social Host Ordinance. The Court's concern was that the City's law specify that the violator have "knowledge" that minors are consuming alcoholic beverages on his or her property. However, the Court ruled in favor of the City's right to enforce such an ordinance. We will review making the necessary changes to the City's approach and keep fighting to stem the rising tide of underage drinking. It was the right approach, and it has been a successful tool for law enforcement. Appealing the Court's ruling is the other option available that we will consider. The Mayor and City Council unanimously adopted the Social Host Ordinance on May 6, 2003.

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